

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 YAOUND 03717 301101Z

10
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /028 W
----- 077141

R 301010Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9819
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 3717

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, NL, EG, SHUM (GELPKE, LODEWIJK GUSTAAF)
SUBJ: NEW NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR TO BULGARIA

REF: (A) THE HAGUE 5317 (B) YAOUNDE 2290 (NOTAL)

1. WHILE WE HAVE NO FURTHER BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON
AMBASSADOR GELPKE, I FOUND HIM TO BE SENSIBLE, SOLID, SOMEWHAT
AVUNCULAR MEMBER OF CORPS WHOSE ONLY WEAKNESS WAS A SLIGHT
TENDENCY TO PASS ON CAMEROONIAN AND EXPATRIATE RUMORS, USUALLY
IMPLAUSIBLE AND EVENTUALLY PROVEN UNTRUE. THIS WEAKNESS IS
SHARED BY SEVERAL EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES HERE AND MAY, OR
MAY NOT, COME OUT MORE MARKEDLY IN BULGAR ENVIRONMENT

2. GELPKE PERSONALLY AND HIS GOVERNMENT HAVE TAKEN
INITIATIVES AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY GOVERNMENT
OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA AND GELPKE SHOWED SOME COURAGE
IN DEALING WITH EG ACCUSATIONS THAT GON WAS SUPPORTING
EG "SUBVERSIVES," WHEN HE WAS RECALLED TO MALABO ON THIS
ISSUE AFTER HE HAD ALREADY PAID HIS FAREWELL CALLS THERE
(REF B). I CANNOT JUDGE FROM HIGHLY PROPER ENVIRONMENT
OF CAMEROON, WHERE SUCH PROBLEMS AND SITUATIONS DO NOT ARISE,
HOW RELEVANT AND USEFUL GELPKE'S ATTITUDE AND COURAGE WILL
BE IN SOFIA. IN ANY EVENT, I AM CONFIDENT AMBASSADOR
HERZ WILL FIND HIM A WORTHY COLLEAGUE.
SPIRO

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NNN

Message Attributes

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